

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Lighting or indicating apparatus for a motor vehicle, including a lighting element comprising at least one reflector, a light source and a housing which has a set of side faces, comprising a rear face, a lower face and an upper face, wherein the lighting element has at least one connector base disposed in an aperture formed in the lighting element, the said connector base comprising a set of terminals which are adapted to come into contact with a set of electrical contact zones of a complementary module, each electrical contact zone being disposed in such a way that it is directly accessible, for the terminal with which it is to make contact, on a surface portion of an electronic printed circuit board of the complementary module.
2. Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the electrical contact zones are distributed over at least two faces of the complementary module.
3. Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the electrical contact zones are disposed on only one face of the complementary module.
4. Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the connector base includes an aperture, in which the electronic circuit board is rooted and in which the set of terminals is disposed.
5. Apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein insertion of the circuit board is reversible, the board being removable.
6. Apparatus according to Claim 1, including at least one additional member, which is mounted removably on the casing and which carries the connector base and the complementary module.
7. Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein elastic means are arranged between the connector base and at least one of the complementary module and the lighting unit.

8. Apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the electrical contact zones are distributed over at least two faces of the complementary module, and are grouped in a first set of electrical contact zones, disposed on a first face of the electronic printed circuit board, and a second set of electrical contact zones disposed on a second face of the electronic circuit board, each contact zone of the first set of contact zones being connected electrically to a contact zone of the second set of contact zones.
9. Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the set of contact zones and the set of terminals are associated in one-to-one relationship.
10. Apparatus according to Claim 4, including means co-operating with each other for centring the set of contact zones with respect to the set of terminals when the electronic circuit board comes to be inserted in the connector base.
11. Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein contact between each contact zone and the terminal with which the said contact zone is adapted to connect is effected by means of at least one intermediate member which is at least partly conductive.
12. Apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein the said at least one intermediate member is fixed to the electronic circuit board, in particular by brazing or adhesive bonding, in such a way as to be in electrical continuity with the electrical contact zones of the said electronic circuit board.
13. Apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein the said at least one intermediate member is a projecting element disposed on at least one of the faces of the electronic circuit board.
14. Apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the set of contact zones and the set of terminals are associated in one-to-one relationship, the intermediate member including a first set of lugs in contact with the

electrical contact zones of the first face of the electronic circuit board, and a second set of lugs in contact with the contact zones on the second face of the electronic circuit board, the two sets of lugs being joined at a common end which is sufficiently thin to be inserted and held between two terminals of the connector base.

15. Apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein the intermediate member is in electrical continuity with, and in particular is fixed to, electrical contact zones of the electronic circuit board.

16. Apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein fastening of the metallic intermediate member and the electrical contact zones of the electronic circuit board to each other is obtained by a process selected from the group that consists of welding, brazing and adhesive bonding.

17. Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the complementary module is selected from the group consisting of a ballast of the xenon system type and a module comprising an electronic printed circuit, for managing at least one function associated with the lighting element.

18. Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the complementary module and the lighting element are secured to each other by at least one means selected from the group consisting of one or more screws and at least one clipping means for clipping the complementary module on the lighting element.

19. Apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the complementary module and the lighting element are secured to each other by means of a spring for exerting pressure on a rear portion of the complementary module, whereby to maintain the electronic circuit board rooted in the aperture of the connector base.

20. Apparatus according to Claim 1, having an aperture formed in at least part of the lower face and a portion of the rear face of the lighting element, the connector base being disposed in an aperture formed in the rear face of the lighting element at the level of the aperture.

5 21. Apparatus according to Claim 20, including a first sealing means of the gasket type disposed in the aperture in such a way as to envelop a connecting terminal of the complementary module, thereby sealing the lighting apparatus.

10 22. Apparatus according to Claim 20, including a second sealing means of the gasket type disposed in the aperture, whereby partially to envelop the connector base, thereby sealing a junction between the connector base and the complementary module.

15 23. Apparatus according to Claim 14, including a third sealing means of the gasket type, disposed between a cover of the complementary module, which constitutes a lower portion of the complementary module, and a cap of the complementary module.

20 24. Apparatus according to Claim 1, having a single power supply input for receiving a set of signals from outside the headlight apparatus, the said signals being transmitted to the connector base through a first conductive link, while a second conductive link, internal to the lighting element, ensures transmission of signals between the connector base and a high tension module associated with the light source.

25 25. Apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein sealing means of the gasket type are arranged between the connector base and the conductive link.

26. Apparatus according to Claim 1, including at least one pair of assembly elements consisting of a guiding slide and a projecting element,

the projecting element being adapted to be inserted in at least one end of the guiding slide with which it is paired, and to slide in the said guiding slide, each of the assembly elements in a pair of assembly elements being disposed on one of the lighting element and a complementary module
5 which is adapted to be associated with the lighting element, the two assembly elements in an assembly pair being disposed otherwise than together, on one of the lighting element and the complementary module.

27. Apparatus according to Claim 26, having two pairs of assembly elements.

10 28. Apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein each guiding slide is disposed on the lighting element, each projecting element of a pair of assembly elements being disposed on the complementary module.

29. Apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein each guiding slide is disposed on the lighting element, each projecting element of a pair of
15 assembly elements being disposed on the complementary module, and the guiding slides being disposed on walls of the lighting element which define the aperture.

30. Apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein the set of contact zones and the set of terminals enter into contact with each other when at least
20 one projecting element in an assembly pair is at the end of its course of travel within the guiding slide with which it is associated.

31. A motor vehicle equipped with a headlight apparatus according to Claim 1.